


MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 10, 2009

TO: Council President Ben Hueso

FROM: Councilmember Carl DeMaio 

RE: Request for Docketing of Small Business Enhancement Program Contract

Small businesses are the backbone of our local economy – and provide a significant part of our municipal revenues through sales and property taxes. I believe that a key strategy for balancing the city's budget – both short term and long term – is to support job creation and retention, particularly in the small business sector.

The City of San Diego is a model for supporting small business, by partnering with local community non profit Business Improvement Districts and the Business Improvement District Council to provide services that grow and retain small businesses throughout the City.

Under Council Policy 900-15, the City supports the work of these Districts and the BID Council through funding derived from the small business licenses paid each year. These funds are reinvested into the business community by the non profit organizations and when leveraged with other BID funding sources support business growth, retention and expansion, commercial neighborhood revitalization, physical improvements, marketing efforts and business assistance programs.

As part of the FY 2010 budget, the City council approved funding for the Districts. Unfortunately, it has come to our attention that the City has not executed a contract to deliver this funding to the Districts.

I ask that you request that city staff release the contract and that the contract be docketed for approval before the full City Council as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

CC: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers